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LETTER DATED 22 MARCH 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, and with reference to public statements made by a number of Iraqi officials and insinuations made in the letters addressed to Your Excellency from the Foreign Minister and Permanent Representative of Iraq, contained in Security Council documents S/22371 and S/22364 respectively, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention.

The Islamic Republic of Iran pursued vigorously an active policy of neutrality in the tragic conflict in the Persian Gulf, while taking every possible measure in order to bring the bloodshed and destruction of Iraq and the region to a speedy end and mitigate the suffering of the innocent people of Iraq. In this context, in addition to its intense diplomatic efforts, my Government, in coordination with the Security Council Sanctions Committee, has dispatched several shipments of humanitarian assistance including medicine and foodstuff to Iraq.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in response to allegations of dubious character, has declared at the highest level that, in line with its Constitution, it does not seek to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq, and has categorically rejected all such irresponsible allegations. Furthermore, in accordance with the same principles governing its foreign policy and consistent with the very strong and clear position it adopted against bombardment of civilian areas in Iraq by allied forces, the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot remain but alarmed at numerous reports of horrifying attacks by government forces against innocent civilians as well as reported desecration of holy shrines and prominent religious personalities. Such concerns are shared by Muslims all over the world, and by the international community in general.

I will be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative